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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/054,147	01/21/2002	Nobuhiro Itoh	2271/66652	5134

7590 09/08/2005
RICHARD F. JAWORSKI
Cooper & Dunham LLP
1185 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10036

EXAMINER

WORKU, NEGUSSIE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2626

DATE MAILED: 09/08/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/054,147

Applicant(s)

ITOH, NOBUHIRO

Examiner

Negussie Worku

Art Unit

2626

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 January 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 21 January 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Murakami et al. (USP 6,148,118) in view of Ohsawa et al. (USP 5,991,450).

Regarding to claim 1, Murakami teaches or discloses a facsimile device (a image reading device of fig 1 and 2) comprising: inputting means (image reading unit 2 of fig 2) for inputting image data of a subject copy having a width in a main scanning direction larger than an A3-size width, (fig 3), see col.5, lines 45-50); reading means (scanner 2 of fig 1 and 2) for divisively reading lines of said image data in a sub-scanning direction by dividing said image data into divisional lines of data having a predetermined width, col.5, lines 40-45); image rotating means (control portion 63 of fig 28) for performing an image rotation with respect to each of said divisional lines of data so as to supply rotated divisional lines, see (col.16, lines 40-50).

Muralami et al. does not disclose an encoding means for encoding each of said rotated divisional lines into encoded data; and outputting means for outputting said encoded data.

Ohsawa et al. in the same area of image reading and processing apparatus teaches an encoding means (encoder 32 of fig 1) for encoding each of said rotated divisional lines into encoded data, col.4, lines 35-45; and outputting means (sheet 38 of fig 2) for outputting said encoded data, (col.4, lines 18-23).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the imaging apparatus of Murakami et al. to include: an encoding means for encoding each of said rotated divisional lines into encoded data; and outputting means for outputting said encoded data.

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the imaging device of Muralami by the teaching of Ohsawa et al. for the purpose of obtaining a perfect final image, for all the prints of different color to be exactly superimpose.

Regarding to claim 2, Murakami teaches or discloses a facsimile device (a image reading device of fig 1 and 2), wherein said reading means (5 of fig 2) divisively reads said lines of said image data in said sub-scanning direction by scanning a plurality of areas of said image data sharing an overlapping width predetermined in said sub-scanning direction col.5, lines 40-45.

Regarding to claim 3, Murakami teaches or discloses a facsimile device (a image reading device of fig 1 and 2), wherein said reading means (2 of fig 2) divisively reads said lines of said image data in said sub-scanning direction by dividing said image data of the subject copy at a predetermined page into said divisional lines of data (col.5, lines 40-45)

Regarding to claim 4, Murakami teaches or discloses a facsimile device (a image reading device of fig 1 and 2), wherein said reading means (2 of fig 2) reductively reads image data of a subject copy having a width larger than said A3-size width by reducing said image data as a whole to said A3-size width, when said subject copy is not at a page to be divisively read, (col.5, lines 40-45).

Regarding to claim 5, Murakami teaches or discloses a method step (a image reading device of fig 1 and 2) comprising: inputting step (image reading unit 2 of fig 2) for inputting image data of a subject copy having a width in a main scanning direction larger than an A3-size width, (fig 3), see col.5, lines 45-50); reading step (scanner 2 of fig 1 and 2) for divisively reading lines of said image data in a sub-scanning direction by dividing said image data into divisional lines of data having a predetermined width, col.5, lines 40-45); image rotating step (control portion 63 of fig 28) for performing an

Art Unit: 2626

image rotation with respect to each of said divisional lines of data so as to supply rotated divisional lines, see (col.16, lines 40-50).

Muralumin et al. does not disclose an encoding means for encoding each of said rotated divisional lines into encoded data; and outputting means for outputting said encoded data.

Osaka et al. in the same area of image reading and processing apparatus teaches an encoding step (encoder 32 of fig 1) for encoding each of said rotated divisional lines into encoded data, col.4, lines 35-45; and outputting step (sheet 38 of fig 2) for outputting said encoded data, (col.4, lines 18-23).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the imaging apparatus of Murakami et al. to include: an encoding means for encoding each of said rotated divisional lines into encoded data; and outputting means for outputting said encoded data.

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the imaging device of Duralumin by the teaching of Ohsawa et al. for the purpose of obtaining a perfect final image, for all the prints of different color to be exactly superimpose.

Regarding to claim 6, Murakami teaches or discloses a facsimile device (a image reading device of fig 1 and 2), wherein said reading means (5 of fig 2) divisively reads said lines of said image data in said sub-scanning direction by scanning a plurality of

Art Unit: 2626

areas of said image data sharing an overlapping width predetermined in said sub-scanning direction col.5, lines 40-45.

Regarding to claim 7, Murakami teaches or discloses a facsimile device (a image reading device of fig 1 and 2), wherein said reading step (2 of fig 2) divisively reads said lines of said image data in said sub-scanning direction by dividing said image data of the subject copy at a predetermined page into said divisional lines of data (col.5, lines 40-45)


Regarding to claim 8, Murakami teaches or discloses a facsimile device (a image reading device of fig 1 and 2), wherein said reading step (2 of fig 2) reductively reads image data of a subject copy having a width larger than said A3-size width by reducing said image data as a whole to said A3-size width, when said subject copy is not at a page to be divisively read, (col.5, lines 40-45).

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Negussie Worku whose telephone number is 571-272-7472. The examiner can normally be reached on 9am-6pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kimberly Williams can be reached on 571-272-7471. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.


Art Unit: 2626

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Negussie Worku

08/27/05



KIMBERLY WILLIAMS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER